

## Confirmation

Submission ID# 1b661a9b-9dd2-4b0d-8976-168c6821537d Submission Date# 16-04-2025

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**INCIDENT NAME**

Urgent Concerns Regarding Organised Criminality and Human Rights Abuses within the São Paulo Militar

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**INVESTIGATION**

Not Related to a Listed Situation or Preliminary Examination

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START DATE OF INCIDENT	4/16/2025
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START DATE OF INCIDENT	4/16/2025
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END DATE OF INCIDENT  
4/16/2025

END DATE OF INCIDENT  
4/16/2025

## CONTACT NAME

## CONTACT EMAIL

## NL

NL

Portuguese

Portuguese

**LOCATION OF INCIDENT**  
São Paulo São Paulo Brazil

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## Factual Summary

**POLICY BRIEF**

**Systemic Criminality, Corruption, and Data Security Risks Involving São Paulo Military Police (PMESP), AXON Technologies, and Transnational Actors**

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**Systemic Criminality, Corruption, and Data Security Risks Involving São Paulo Military Police (PMESP), AXON Technologies, and Transnational Actors**

**Report Date:** 16 April 2025

**Incident Period: ONGOING**

**Prepared for:** International law enforcement agencies, diplomatic services, data protection authorities, human rights organisations, and cybersecurity regulators

<https://ponte.org/unidade-da-pm-sp-posta-video-de-policiais-com-braco-em-riste-e-uma-cruz-em-chamas/>

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DGnSNNkxceF/>

## Executive Summary

This policy brief consolidates verified intelligence, investigative reports, and technical assessments concerning the infiltration of organised crime within the São Paulo Military Police (PMESP), with a focus on Colonel Robson Cabanas Duque (‘Colonel

## Executive Summary

This policy brief consolidates verified intelligence, investigative reports, and technical assessments concerning the infiltration of organised crime within the São Paulo Military Police (PMESP), with a focus on Colonel Robson Cabanas Duque (‘Colonel

Cabanas), and the manipulation of police technology involving AXON Enterprises. It outlines criminal, ethical, and systemic risks impacting Brazil, Spain, the United States, and broader international security.

Key findings include evidence of:

- Transnational bribery schemes involving AXON and senior police officials
- Systematic manipulation of body-worn camera data
- Use of neo-fascist symbols and racial violence by PMESP units
- Data protection breaches through U.S.-based AXON servers
- Institutional contamination obstructing lawful prosecution in Brazil

These dynamics pose a direct threat to democratic integrity, data sovereignty, international public safety, and the credibility of judicial processes.

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Key Intelligence Findings

1. Transnational Criminal Activity Involving Colonel Cabanas

- Affiliation:** Military Police of São Paulo (PMESP), Brazil
- Status:** Residing in a beachfront mansion in Spain; holds two Brazilian properties
- Financial Activity:** Receives approx. \$4,500/month routed via Phoenix, Arizona (USA) to Spain
- Criminal Link:** Involved in corrupt procurement schemes for police body-worn cameras

2. Bribery and AXON Enterprise Corruption

- AXON Enterprises, headquartered in the U.S., manufactures police body-worn cameras used by PMESP.
- Cabanas allegedly lobbied for AXON contracts across Brazil (São Paulo, Rio Grande do Sul, Bahia), receiving illicit payments.
- Mediator:** ADVANTA, a Brazilian intermediary company
- Breach:** AXON stores footage on U.S. servers, violating data sovereignty laws in Brazil and potentially the EU (GDPR).

3. Evidence Tampering and Data Deletion

- PMESP officers routinely:
- Damage or tamper** with their cameras
- Manipulate** metadata and footage using AXON's insecure software

â€¢ Store cameras in **labelled boxes** for 90 days until legal deletion deadlines are reached, erasing key evidence

â€¢ Technical analysis confirms that **AXON footage is editable**, making it inadmissible or unreliable in court.

4. Institutional Impunity and Symbolic Extremism

â€¢ A publicly posted video (since removed) shows PMESP agents saluting in the Roman style before a **burning cross**, a known Ku Klux Klan ritual.

â€¢ This was accompanied by dramatic music, suggesting ideological extremism within PMESP ranks.

â€¢ The responsible unit, **BAEP (Special Police Actions Battalion)**, is an elite force modelled on **ROTA**, notorious for extrajudicial killings.

â€¢ On 27 March 2025, four BAEP agents were acquitted of murdering two falsely accused young men, further evidencing systemic judicial failure.

5. Judicial and Cybersecurity Vulnerabilities in Brazil

â€¢ Brazilian media forensics capabilities are critically underdeveloped.

â€¢ Government agencies lack protocols for:

â€¢ Secure data storage

â€¢ Evidence chain of custody

â€¢ Cyber defence (e.g., HTTPS is often absent in state systems)

â€¢ Military policing of civilians continues unlawfully in violation of international democratic norms

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Risks Identified

â€¢ **Military-grade weapons and use of lethal force**

â€¢ **Evidence fabrication or destruction**

â€¢ **Judicial obstruction due to institutional contamination**

â€¢ **Mass surveillance without safeguards**

â€¢ **Unregulated international data flows and AI vulnerabilities**

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Policy Recommendations

1. Intelligence and Enforcement Measures

- â€¢ Locate and trace **Colonel Cabanas** and all associated assets (including crypto)
- â€¢ Flag his vehicles and establish **real-time stealth alerts** to:
  - â€¢ INTERPOL, EUROPOL
  - â€¢ Spainâ€™s PolicÃa Nacional
  - â€¢ FBI (Arizona, Massachusetts, Washington field offices)
  - â€¢ Brazilian Federal Police (**Federal District only**)

2. International Oversight and Data Governance

- â€¢ Conduct forensic audits of all **AXON body-worn camera contracts**
- â€¢ Require AXON to comply with **international data protection standards**
- â€¢ Suspend use of AXON cameras pending independent certification

3. Diplomatic and Legislative Action

- â€¢ Pressure the Brazilian government to:
  - â€¢ **Immediately end military policing of civilians**
  - â€¢ **Establish a civilian-led national investigative unit**
- â€¢ Ratify international conventions on **policing standards and digital integrity**

4. Cybersecurity and Legal Reform

- â€¢ Require encryption, blockchain authentication, and tamper-proof timestamping for police footage
- â€¢ Create a regional cyberdefence framework in Latin America, supported by G7 and EU partners

5. Awareness and Dissemination

- Disseminate this brief to:
- â€¢ United Nations Human Rights Council
  - â€¢ International Criminal Court (ICC)
  - â€¢ Inter-American Court of Human Rights
  - â€¢ European Court of Human Rights
  - â€¢ Data protection authorities in the EU and UK
  - â€¢ Foreign ministries and legislative bodies in Brazil, the U.S., and Spain
  - â€¢ Judicial oversight and prosecutorial councils

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Conclusion

The São Paulo Military Police, aided by transnational corporate actors, represents a growing threat to international law, human rights, and democratic institutions. The international community must treat this as an urgent matter of transnational organised crime, institutional decay, and digital insecurity.

Immediate, coordinated action across jurisdictions is essential to hold perpetrators accountable and to uphold the integrity of justice systems both in Brazil and abroad.

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Date: 16 April 2025

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